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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Kazushi FUKUTA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2852

Application No.: 10/663,823

Examiner: S. Brase

Filed: September 17, 2003

Docket No.: 116880

For: PROCESSING DEVICE AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

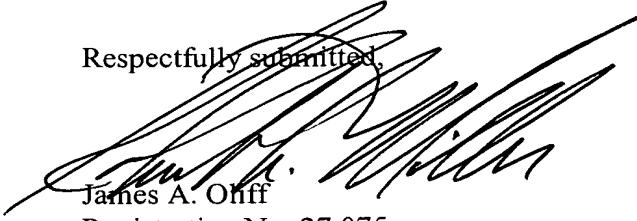
Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, Notice of Allowance or other action that closes prosecution (e.g., Quayle Action).
- a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- 2. Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.
- 3. The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. A copy of the foreign Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information.

4. A computer-generated English language translation of the following Japanese reference(s) has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 1 and 2.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oniff

Registration No. 27,075

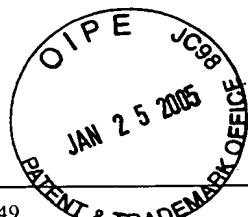
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Date: January 25, 2005

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Form PTO-1449 (REV. 8-83)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 116880	APPLICATION NO. 10/663,823		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS Kazushi FUKITA et al.			
				FILING DATE September 17, 2003	GROUP 2852		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME		CLASS	SUB CLASS
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY		CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1	JP 09-244430 (w/Abstract and Translation)	9/1997	Japan			
	2	JP 2002-162884 (w/Abstract and Translation)	6/2002	Japan			
OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
<p>Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>							